World Sanskrit Conference

1472. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASKANT: SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a World Sanskrit Conference is held in different countries after ev five years; and

(b) what help Government provL to the Indian scholars represent ee country at the World Sans- Conferences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The World Sanskrit Conferences are held in different countries with the interval of two or three years.

(b) The Government of Indian spon- a delegation consisting of pro- i minent Sanskrit scholars to partici- a in it and full expenditure is by the Government.

improper functSoninjr *nf* the IF.CS

1473. DR. G. VTJAYA MOHAN ODY: Will the Minister of REALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Governmnt are aware that Indian Red Cross Society is not functioning properly and there are reports of corruption and nepotism find what is the method of appoint ing the managing body of the Indian Red Cross;

(b) whether Government propose to take any steps to improve the flatters; and

fc) if so, what are the details retif?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARJ SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) According t_0 the Indian Red Cross Society Act, the Managing Body of the Society sh?U consist of a Chair- man to be nominated by the President and 20 members of whom:—

(A) Twenty shall be Vice Presidents elected by Branch Committees of 20 States;

(iil Six shall be nominated by the President;

(iii) Three shall be elected by the Managing Body at its ordinary meeting held immediately pro coding the Annual General Meeting-two of whom shall be from such active Union Territory Branches as may be decided by the Managing ■ and one member elected by it ps the TTonoi- ar'f Legal Adviser. Government have seen news papers reports alleging irregularities in the functioning of the Indian Red $Cres_s$ Society.

The Indian Red Crass Society and its Managiijg Body are competent authorities to manage the affairs of the Indian Red Cross Society.

Abortion of Female Ftoetwses

1474. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether in the name of de tecting genetic sbnc rmalities, certain c'inic are taking resource to abort ing female foetuses; and

(b) if so, whether Government have anv statistics in this regard and what effective steps the Government propose to take to put an end to thi_s practice and punieh the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI

SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) aha (b) ! The exact incidence of aborting female foetuses as a result of sex determination tests is not known as no (study i7i this regard has been carried out.

A_s the abortion of female foetuses following sex determination tests is more of a social problem than legal— theie is, thus, a greater need for social awareness in thi_s regard. Government has taken steps to change the status of women in th_e society. A new Department of Women and Child Development under Human Resources Ministry ha_3 been created to help raise th_e status of women. The need to link issues like female literacy, women's employment, raising mean age of marriage of $girl_s$ etc. along with improving the health (status of women are some of the important thrust.? being undertaken in different $programem_s$ of the Government.

Tlie Government ha_s also constituted a small committee to go into the $variou_s$ aspects for regulating the use of sex-determination tests.

Modernisation of domestic Airports by the NAA

1475. SHRIMATl SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Airports Authority of India ha_s failed in achieving its target of modernising and upgrading key domestic Airports;

vb) whether it is also a fact that this $_w$ork is now being entrusted to International Airports Authority of India;

(c) if so, what are the modalities o{ such arrangements; and

(d) what are the possible consequences thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) No, Sir. Modernisation of equipment and uygradation of facilities at airports is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner, depending upon the requirements projected by the operators (Airlines) as well as availability of resources.

(h) No, Sir.

($_c$) and (d) Do not arise.

Schools without Buildings in the Country

1476. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI- Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE iDEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of schools in the country are without buildings and furniture;

(b) if so, what are the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAM): (a) and (b) According to the Fourth AH India Educational Survey, as o_n 30th September, 1978, the number of school^ in the country without buildings and furniture was as shown in the attached Annexure (See Appendix CXLV, Annexure No. 47)

(c) School education is primarily looked after by the state governments concerned. It is basically for them t_0 provide the necessary infrastructure for schools they manage/regulate. The Government of India, under Operation Blackboard has initiated a programme for ensuring essential facilities including availability of at least two pucca class jroomg and school furniture to primary schools in the country in a